Application No.: 10/518,992 Docket No.: SONYJP 3.3-374

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-12. (canceled)

Claim 13. (currently amended) A data processing apparatus for recommending content to a user; comprising:

receiving storing means for receiving storing favorite content lists via a network received from a plurality of user terminal devices including the user terminal device corresponding to the user;

a specifying portion for extracting and generating a content list by comparing content listed in the received favorite content lists;

an assigning means for assigning points to the content
in each favorite content list in inverse proportion to a
number of contents listed in the corresponding favorite
content list;

a generating means for generating a content list indicating common contents by comparing the content listed in the stored favorite content lists;

a recommendation list generation portion for assigning points and ranking means for ranking content in the generated content list based on the points assigned to the content; and

recommendation generating means for generating a recommendation content list specific to the user based on the ranked content and not including the content of the user's favorite content list; and.

transmitting means for transmitting the recommendation content list to the user terminal device corresponding to the user.

Claim 14. (currently amended) A method of recommending content to a user; comprising the steps of:

receiving storing favorite content lists via a networkreceived from a plurality of user terminal devices including the user terminal device corresponding to the user;

extracting and generating a content list by comparing content listed in the received favorite content lists;

assigning points to the content in each favorite

content list in inverse proportion to a number of contents

listed in the corresponding favorite content list;

generating a content list indicating common contents
by comparing the content listed in the stored favorite
content lists; and

ranking content in the generated content list based on the points assigned to the content; and

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generating a recommendation content list specific to the user based on the ranked content and not including the content of the user's favorite content list.; and

transmitting the recommendation content list to the user terminal device corresponding to the user.

Claim 15. (currently amended) A user terminal device connected to a data processing system for recommending content to a user; comprising:

transmitting means for transmitting a favorite content list and a request for a recommendation content list to a data processing apparatus via a network; and

receiving means for receiving the requested recommendation content list;

wherein the recommendation content list is specific to the user and is generated by extracting and specifying a content list by comparing content listed in favorite content lists from a plurality of users, assigning points to the content in each favorite content list in inverse proportion to a number of contents listed in the corresponding favorite content list, generating a content list indicating common contents by comparing the content listed in the favorite content lists, and ranking content in the generated content list based on the points assigned to the content, and generating the recommendation content

list based on the ranked content and not including the content of the user's favorite content list.

Claim 16. (currently amended) A data processing system for recommending content to a user; comprising:

a plurality of user terminal devices including the user terminal device corresponding to the user, each comprising:

transmitting means for transmitting a favorite content list and a request for a recommendation content list; and

receiving means for receiving the requested recommendation content list; and

a data processing apparatus connected to the plurality of user terminal devices via a network, comprising:

receiving storing means for receiving storing the favorite content lists received from the plurality of user terminal devices and the request from the user terminal device corresponding to the user;

a specifying portion for extracting and generating a content list by comparing content listed in the received favorite content lists;

assigning means for assigning points to the content in each favorite content list in inverse proportion to a number of contents listed in the corresponding favorite content list;

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generating means for generating a content list indicating common contents by comparing the content listed in the stored favorite content lists;

a recommendation list generation portion for assigning points and ranking means for ranking content in the generated content list based on the points assigned to the content; and

recommendation generating means for generating the recommendation content list specific to the user based on the ranked content and not including the content of the user's favorite content list; and

transmitting means for transmitting the recommendation content list to the user terminal device corresponding to the user.

Claim 17. (New) The data processing apparatus according to claim 13, further comprising transmitting means for transmitting the recommendation content list to the user terminal device corresponding to the user.

Claim 18. (New) The method according to claim 14, further comprising the step of transmitting the recommendation content list to the user terminal device corresponding to the user.

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Claim 19. (New) The data processing system according to claim 16, further comprising transmitting means for transmitting the recommendation content list to the user terminal device corresponding to the user.